

Week Ending December 7, 1997

Released 3:00 pm, December 8, 1997

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 2.9 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending December 7, 1997. The main farming activities for the week were feeding cattle and planting ryegrass. Soil moisture conditions were rated 1 percent short, 38 percent adequate and 61 percent surplus.

| Progress In Percentages | | | | | | Conditions in Percentages | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------|----------|---------------------------|------|------|------|-----------|
| Item | Event | This Week | Last Week | 1996 | 5-Yr Avg | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
| Cotton | Harvested | 100 | 99 | 100 | 100 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Soybeans | Harvested | 98 | 97 | 100 | 99 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Wheat | Planted | 96 | 95 | 100 | 98 | 0 | 1 | 28 | 64 | 7 |
| | Emerged | 90 | 89 | 99 | 94 | | | | | |
| Sweetpotatoes | Harvested | 100 | 98 | 100 | 100 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Pecans | Harvested | 68 | 57 | 64 | 77 | 16 | 20 | 46 | 17 | 1 |
| Cattle | | | | | | 0 | 4 | 29 | 55 | 12 |

County Agent Comments

"Harvest operations are complete. Cold temperatures and cloudy weather have hampered winter grazing growth. Cattlemen are about finished culling cows and selling calves for this year. Hay supplies are adequate at this time."

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha County

"Cattlemen are feeding hay and feed supplements to cattle. Early ryegrass pastures are extremely boggy and cannot be grazed at this time. It is too wet to cut cotton stalks for boll weevil eradication program."

— Otis Lee Davis, Madison County

"Extremely cold temperatures in past weeks have caused producers to start feeding hay earlier than anticipated. Winter grasses are coming along nicely."

— Ruby Rankin, Kemper County

"Muddy fields have delayed completion of soybean harvesting. Wet, cold weather has increased feed consumption for livestock. Wheat planting is completed."

— Dalton Garner, Prentiss County

"Row crop work is essentially complete for the winter. Pastures are holding up well. Farmers are making plans for next year. More land is going into the CRP program."

— Terry D. Rector, Warren County

"Rainfall has temporarily halted our final soybean harvest. Pasture and winter grazing growth looks good."

— John Roberts, Monroe County

"Ryegrass is off to a slow start; about 3 weeks behind. Beef producers are feeding hay & feed supplements to cattle. Cotton harvest is complete and yields look good. Row crop farmers are looking at kenaf in the future, providing favorable pricing structure can be initiated."

— Lee Taylor, Forrest County

"Continued rainfall has prevented some of the wheat from emerging. Cattle farmers are feeding hay and feed supplement to cattle. Ryegrass doing good."

— Houston Therrell, Rankin County

This is our last Weather Crop Report for this year.

Have a Happy Holiday Season.

This publication is part of a series that first began in 1872 and continuously published since. In Mississippi, this report is a result of the cooperative efforts of:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Mississippi Cooperative
Extension Service
Ronald A. Brown, Director

Southern Regional
Climate Center
Louisiana State University
Jay Grymes, Operations Manager

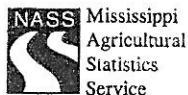
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Mississippi Agricultural
Statistics Service
Thomas L. Gregory, State Statistician

Weather Summary from December 1, 1997 to December 17, 1997 for Mississippi

| District/Station | Air Temperature | | | | | Precipitation | | | | 4 Inch Soil Temperature | | | Avg Pan Evap |
|--|-----------------|-----|-----|------|-----|---------------|-------|-----------|------------|-------------------------|-----|-----|--------------|
| | Max | Min | Avg | Norm | DFN | One Week | DFN | Rain Days | Four Weeks | Max | Min | Avg | |
| 1. Upper Delta Clarksdale Cleveland Tunica Extreme/Average | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2. North-Central Holly Springs | 58 | 28 | 44 | 43 | +1 | 0.61 | -0.61 | 3 | 1.55 | 57 | 43 | 51 | |
| Memphis | 54 | 24 | 41 | 47 | -5 | 0.46 | -0.82 | 1 | 1.78 | | | | |
| Oxford | 59 | 19 | 42 | 45 | -3 | 0.59 | -0.61 | 3 | 1.31 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 59 | 19 | 42 | 45 | -3 | 0.55 | -0.68 | 2 | 1.55 | 57 | 43 | 51 | |
| 3. Northeast Booneville | 56 | 18 | 40 | 45 | -5 | 0.57 | -0.59 | 3 | 1.39 | | | | |
| Corinth | 62 | 21 | 43 | 47 | -4 | 0.74 | -0.17 | 3 | 1.57 | | | | |
| Iuka | 57 | 16 | 39 | | | 0.54 | | 2 | 1.70 | | | | |
| Pontotoc | 56 | 27 | 45 | 46 | -1 | 0.48 | -0.68 | 3 | 1.34 | 57 | 38 | 51 | 0.08 |
| Tupelo | 58 | 21 | 40 | 46 | -6 | 0.32 | -0.97 | 1 | 0.92 | | | | |
| Verona | 58 | 22 | 43 | | | 0.43 | | 3 | 1.36 | 58 | 38 | 48 | |
| Extreme/Average | 62 | 16 | 42 | 46 | -4 | 0.51 | -0.62 | 3 | 1.38 | 58 | 38 | 50 | 0.08 |
| 4. Lower Delta Belzoni | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Greenwood | 59 | 23 | 43 | 49 | -5 | 0.56 | -0.66 | 2 | 2.67 | | | | |
| Rolling Fork | 63 | 25 | 46 | | | 0.77 | -0.35 | 2 | 3.56 | 64 | 42 | 57 | |
| Stoneville | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yazoo City | | | | | | 0.54 | -0.74 | 1 | 3.17 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 63 | 23 | 45 | 49 | -4 | 0.62 | -0.59 | 2 | 3.13 | 64 | 42 | 57 | |
| 5. Central Carthage | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Jackson | 62 | 23 | 45 | 50 | -5 | 0.34 | -0.94 | 2 | 3.36 | | | | |
| Winona | 58 | 18 | 40 | 46 | -6 | 0.52 | -0.83 | 1 | 2.15 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 62 | 18 | 42 | 48 | -6 | 0.43 | -0.89 | 2 | 2.76 | | | | |
| 6. East-Central Brooksville | | | | | | 0.43 | -0.69 | 1 | 3.17 | | | | |
| Columbus | 59 | 23 | 43 | | | 0.39 | | 2 | 3.01 | | | | |
| State University | 78 | 24 | 49 | 47 | +2 | 0.42 | -0.88 | 3 | 1.50 | 62 | 36 | 49 | |
| Extreme/Average | 78 | 23 | 46 | 47 | -2 | 0.41 | -0.80 | 2 | 2.56 | 62 | 36 | 49 | |
| 7. Southwest Crystal Springs | 71 | 25 | 50 | | | 0.53 | | 2 | 4.86 | 62 | 41 | 55 | |
| Natchez | 67 | 24 | 48 | 53 | -5 | 0.89 | -0.66 | 2 | 4.77 | | | | |
| Oakley | 76 | 27 | 52 | | | 0.47 | -0.75 | 1 | 3.79 | 64 | 47 | 55 | |
| Vicksburg | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 76 | 24 | 50 | 53 | -3 | 0.63 | -0.76 | 2 | 4.47 | 64 | 41 | 55 | |
| 8. South-Central Columbia | 64 | 27 | 48 | 52 | -4 | 0.34 | -1.29 | 1 | 4.89 | | | | |
| McComb | 65 | 25 | 47 | 52 | -5 | 1.09 | -0.61 | 3 | 7.91 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 65 | 25 | 48 | 52 | -4 | 0.72 | -0.95 | 2 | 6.40 | | | | |
| 9. Southeast Beaumont | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hattiesburg | 64 | 25 | 48 | 51 | -4 | 0.34 | -1.13 | 1 | 6.23 | | | | |
| Laurel | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Meridian | 63 | 22 | 45 | 50 | -5 | 0.42 | -0.76 | 1 | 2.74 | | | | |
| Newton | 61 | 22 | 47 | 49 | -2 | 0.47 | -0.69 | 3 | 3.50 | 55 | 35 | 48 | 0.06 |
| Extreme/Average | 64 | 22 | 46 | 50 | -4 | 0.41 | -0.86 | 2 | 4.16 | 55 | 35 | 48 | 0.06 |
| 10. Coastal Bay St Louis | 69 | 27 | 51 | | | 0.51 | | 1 | 9.37 | | | | |
| Biloxi | 66 | 32 | 51 | | | 0.65 | | 1 | 7.69 | | | | |
| Gulfport | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pascagoula | 68 | 29 | 54 | 57 | -3 | 0.69 | -0.31 | 1 | 7.57 | | | | |
| Poplarville | 69 | 27 | 50 | 54 | -4 | 1.21 | -0.09 | 2 | 4.47 | 64 | 52 | 58 | |
| Extreme/Average | 69 | 27 | 52 | 56 | -4 | 0.77 | -0.38 | 1 | 7.28 | 64 | 52 | 58 | |
| State | 78 | 16 | 46 | 49 | -4 | 0.56 | -0.73 | 2 | 3.74 | 64 | 35 | 52 | 0.07 |

DFN = Departure from Normal.

United States Department Of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Agricultural Statistician
Post Office Box 980
Jackson, Mississippi 39205



FIRST CLASS
POSTAGE & FEES PAID
NASS USDA
Permit No. G-38

Official Business
Penalty For Private Use, \$300
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED